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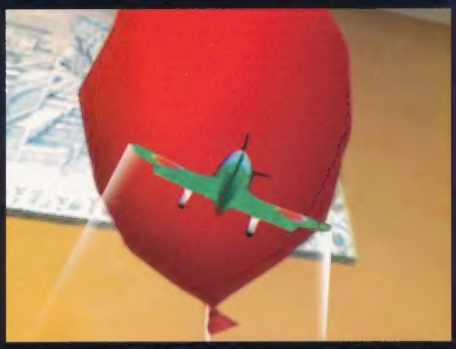
YOU CAN ATTACK,
BUT YOU CAN'T ESCAPE

WHEN GOOD TOYS GO BAD.



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../08. TOY COMMANDER™

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EVERYONE E CONTENT RATED BY ESRB

toy COMMANDER™

METROPOLIS, NEW YEAR'S DAY, 2000. SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT.
SHORTLY AFTER THE WORLD STOPPED.
"The Holiday Season is the one time of year when our true selves should rise to the fore... unfortunately, when they do, and they're not always pretty."
--Clark Kent, Daily Planet, Dec. 1999
THE SCREAMS BUILD AND THE FIRES SPREAD AND THE NIGHTMARE THINGS THAT HAVE ENTRENCHED THEMSELVES THROUGHOUT OUR WORLD SPREAD TERROR AND DARKNESS...
AND FIVE THOUSAND YEARS OF MAN'S PROGRESS COME TO AN END.
AND HERE I THOUGHT THINGS WERE BAD ON CHRISTMAS.

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DON'T LOOK SO SHOCKED... IT'S NOT THE END OF THE WORLD.
JUST BECAUSE EVERY SHOPPING MALL IN THE COUNTRY STARTS A CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN IN SEPTEMBER DOESN'T MEAN I'M OBLIGATED TO PLAY MERRY CAPITALIST...
I DON'T WANT ANY PRESENTS THIS YEAR. END OF STORY.

LOIS, YOU HANG TINSEL IN THE FREEZER. YOU GET MISTY IF YOU HEAR PAR-RUMP-A-PUM-PUM ON ELEVATOR MUZAK--
LAST YEAR, YOU GOT A PAPER CUT OPENING YOUR ADVENT CALENDAR AND YOU BLED EGG NOG.
YOU LOVE CHRISTMAS, AND CHRISTMAS COMES WITH GIFTS.

I DO NOT HANG TINSEL IN THE FREEZER... IT'S GARLAND. THERE'S A DIFFERENCE...
BESIDES, YOU ALWAYS GO TO TOO MUCH TROUBLE FOR MY GIFT--

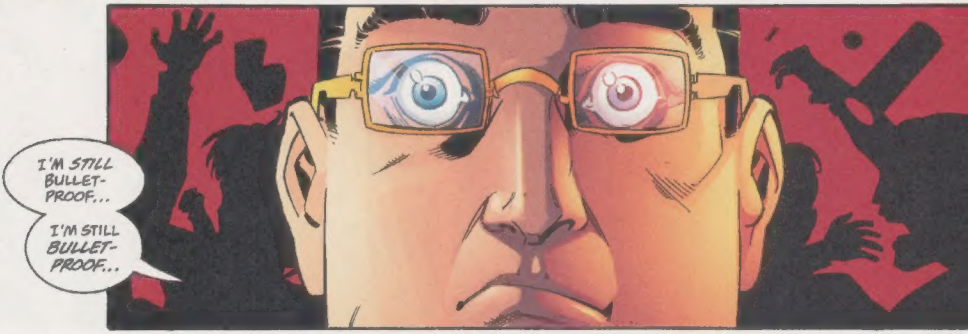
TROUBLE? I COULD FLY TO JAPAN, SCOOP BLACK PEARLS FROM THE OCEAN AND WRAP THEM IN AN ORIGAMI SWAN BEFORE YOU FINISHED YOUR NEXT SENTENCE--
NO... NOT ALWAYS...
THAT'S MY POINT. YOUR GIFTS ARE SUPER-EXTRAVAGANT! DIAMONDS FORGED BY HAND... GLASS MELTED BY HEAT VISION--
CLARK, BEFORE WE WERE MARRIED, YOU GAVE ME A GORGEOUS GEODE, A PAPERWEIGHT-- LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND SAY YOU PICKED IT UP AT MACY'S...

...
I PICKED IT UP AT DACY'S...
SMALLVILLE HIGH
THE DACY'S ON THE MOON.
BUSTED. YOU DO TOO MUCH, AND IT'S NOT FAIR.

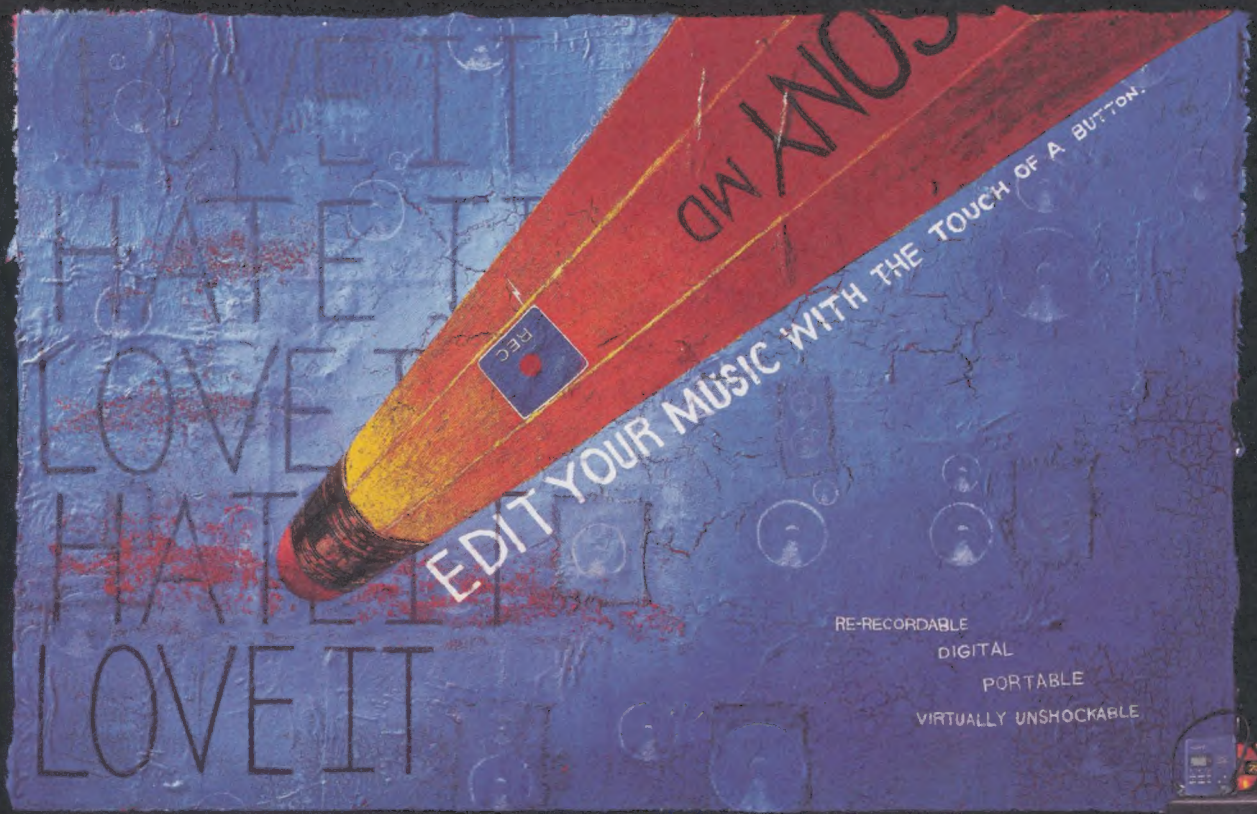
LOIS, SO WHAT IF I USE MY POWERS? I DO THOSE THINGS BECAUSE I CAN...
AND IT'S WORTH IT TO GET A SPECIAL GIFT FOR A SPECIAL LADY.
I... I DON'T DESERVE A SUPER-GIFT THIS YEAR... TRUST ME...
SMAL
HIGH

COMPROMISE. THIS YEAR, NO POWERS. NOTHING FROM VENUS, NO SUPER-STUNTS--
--AN EVEN PLAYING FIELD. JUST A GUY PRESENT HUNTING FOR HIS WONDERFUL OVERWORKED. WIFE?
:sigh: CLARK, NO--
...

YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE, SMALLVILLE, YOU KNOW THAT?
NO, I'M JUST A REGULAR GUY, WHO IS ASKING PERMISSION TO USE THE JOINT ACCOUNT TO BUY A PRESENT.
OKAY.. OKAY.. ENOUGH WITH THE CUTE. YOU WIN. JUST PROMISE ME YOU'LL BE CAREFUL.
WHY?


I'M STILL BULLET-PROOF...
I'M STILL BULLET-PROOF...

All I want for Christmas
A Gift To You From
Jolly Joe Kelly
Gregarious German Garcia & Kano
Joe The Red-Nosed- Rubinstein
Cheery Colorist Glenn Whitmore &
WildStorm FX
Laughing All The Way Letterer John Costanza
Merry Maureen McTigue
Eddie "I want to be a Dentist" Berganza
Santa Carlin
--CLEAN UP IN ISLE--
--KILL ME IF I DON'T GET IT--
--SPECIAL OFFER WITH--
20% LESS!
MINE! BACK OFF!
WANT IT WANT IT WANT IT
--KID'S BEEN BUGGIN' ME F'R WEEKS! GO FIND ANOTHER--
MERRY ^& @#$% CHRISTMAS TO YOU TOO, PAL!
THERE AREN'T ANY MORE! LET GO BEFORE I BREAK YOUR ARM!
HEY, FELLAS... 'TIS THE SEASON, RIGHT? WHAT SAY YOU TWO SHAKE HANDS AND TRY TO WORK THIS OUT--
"WORK IT OUT"? MISTER, YOU DON'T GOT KIDS, DO YA?
WELL, NO, BUT--
THEN SHADDUP!!!



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I NEVER KNEW IT COULD BE THIS BAD... IT'S LIKE I'VE GONE SHOPPING ON BIZARRO WORLD--
NOT LIKE BACK HOME... IS IT, SON? SMALL-TOWN BOY, RIGHT?
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS?
ONLY IF YOU HAVE EYES. HERE ...SOMETHING TO GET YOU BACK IN THE SPIRIT.
HOME OR AWAY, PEOPLE ARE PEOPLE WHEREVER YOU GO... AND PEOPLE SHOULD BE NICE ON CHRISTMAS.
YEAH... PEOPLE ARE STILL PEOPLE...
EEEEEEEE
SAVE 20%
THANK YOU FOR THE CANDY CANE, MA'AM. IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I MADE CLARK JUMP THROUGH HOOPS LIKE THIS. HE'S TOO GOOD TO ME...
HE'S ALWAYS TOO GOOD.
AND HOW DO I REPAY HIM? MAKING BACK-ROOM DEALS WITH BALD MEGALO-MANIACS AND KEEPING IT SECRET...
ALL PROCEEDS ON SUPER-MERCHANDISE ARE DONATED TO CHARITY
NICE JOB, MRS. SUPERMAN.
CHOP CHOP MI PEQUEÑO BURRO! I HAVEN'T RUN OUT OF CREDIT YET!
See Superman #157 for details --ED.
LOOK AT THAT--
SHE A MOVIE STAR?
GORGEOUS!
BOYS' FASHIONS. SPORTING GOODS. VIDEO GAMES, AND WE'RE AGABADO. THEN, IF YOU'RE STILL AS ATTENTIVE...
A QUICK STOP IN LINGERIE, AND YOU CAN WATCH ME TRY ON A PRESENT TO MYSELF.

SUPERHOMBRE!?!
CHANGE OF PLANS, NINO'S! IMPULSE BUY!
MY LITTLE BROTHER SIMPLY ADORES SUPERMAN! HE'LL WANT ALL OF THIS... BUT WHO CAN BLAME HIM, EH NOVIA?
A SPECIMEN OF PERFECCION. CHISELED, MACHO--
HONEST... WARM... GOOD...
YES, SO... GOOD. I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE SO GOOD IN ALL MY LIFE.
IT WOULD BE A TRAGEDIA... IF WE WERE EVER TO LOSE HIM.
HA, SMILE, BELLEZA! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN GOOD, TOO!' MAYBE PAPA NOEL WILL LEAVE A SUPERMAN FOR YOU UNDER THE MISTLETOE!
I'D SAY HE'D STOP BY MY PLACE FIRST.. BUT I KNOW I'VE BEEN NAUGHTY!' :WINK:
SNAP
ON JACKSON!' ON FRANKLIN! ON CASH CARD AND AMEX!' 'TIS THE WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS, AND WE HAVE PILLAGING TO DO!
TAKES ALL KINDS TO MAKE THE WORLD GO 'ROUND, I GUESS... MERRY CHRISTMAS, LADY..
HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THAT "BEING GOOD" THING...
'SCUSE ME PARDON ME MY FAULT 'SCUSE ME--
DADDY, WHAT'S WRONG WIT' SANTA?!?
SOME-ONE'S GETTING SUED!
DEAR GOD--
WHAT'S HAPPEN-- OH NO...
--A SICK JOKE?
MOMMY I'M SCARED!

Take heed, chestnut, 'fore you reply--to Satan Claus, one cannot lie...
Say you've been "nice" and find it true, a gift of kings I'll give to you...!
But answer "good" and be it boast--
in hell, my chestnut, shall ye roast!
UM... FORGET IT... I JUST REMEMBERED I'M JEWISH.
ETRIGAN,
DEMON

GENERIC KNOCKOFFS ARE OKAY FOR MEDICATION. THIS STUFF IS WAY TOO IMPORTANT.

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Color Memory Cards

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Multi Tap

RFU Adaptors

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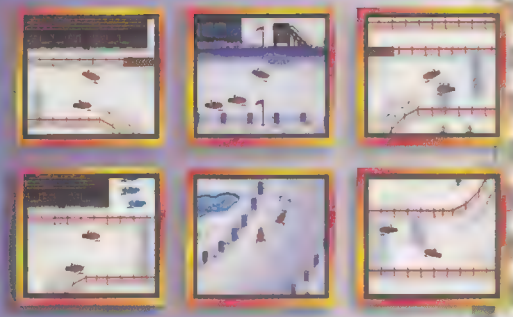
Bah! I left BELOVED DIS FOR THIS? A WASTE OF TIME, YON IDLE TRYST...
NO CLOSER TO THE TRUTH AM I-- AND CHILD HAS MADE MINE LEG NOT DRY!
MOMMMMM
WHAT HO?
OH, NO
I'M GOING TO TELL YOU THIS ONCE, ETRIGAN...
...DROP THE SANTA CAP AND BACK AWAY FROM THE REINDEER BEFORE SOMEONE GETS HURT.
PWHAMM

GAME BOY COLOR

POLARIS

SnoCross

RIDE THE BEST!



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Race on bumping and jumping SnoCross tracks, tight and winding cross country tracks, and even a speed demon oval.

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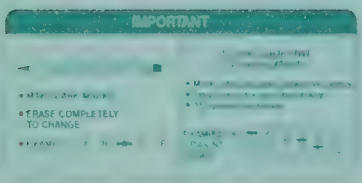
They have
a vision . . .
They're on
a mission . . .
And nothing can
stop them.
D'ARTAGNAN
ATHOS
PORTHOS
3MUSKETEERS!
C
INTENDED FOR LOCAL AUDIENCES
NOTHING CAN STAND
IN YOUR WAY WITH...
3Musketeers

LET ME GUESS... IT'S STILL A LITTLE CHILLY BACK HOME, SO YOU'RE SHOPPING FOR THREE-TOED FLANNEL SOCKS?
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED HERE UNSUPERVISED, ETRIGAN. WHAT GIVES?
OH, BOY of STEEL, you judge so reckless, punch and jibe and cause a BIG MESS...
'Tis not a scrape with you I seek, nor have I come to cull the weak.
BUT SINCE your ways are cold and rash--
I'll REBUT your EGO with a--
FWASSSSH
OH MY GOD!! RUNNNNN!
HNNGH
THAT THING BAKED SUPERMAN!!!
SUPERMAN?
CLARK?

There's no need to explain myself, I'm neither sprite nor gnome nor elf
Today I walk the plane of man, the why, the how, my secret plan!
LAST TIME YOU HAD A "SECRET PLAN," ETRIGAN, IT WAS TO FREEZE HELL AND TAKE OVER THE EARTH!
IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO FORGET THAT AND LET YOU HIT THE MALLS FOR LAST-MINUTE SPECIALS--
in DAY OF JUDGMENT --ED.
YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER THING COMING!
you'll waste no more of my DECEMBER!
KRAKAAM!
my time is short, as is my temper--
self-righteous fool, if you but knew my purpose here. what I would do.
I have a mission, a task, a QUEST... to find the true meaning--
PLEASE, BABE, REALLY... GIVE THE RHYMING A REST.



SCANTRON® FORM NO. 882-ES

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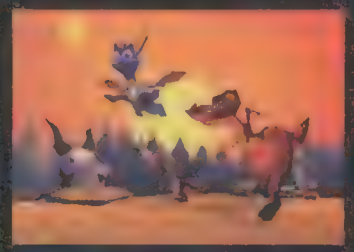
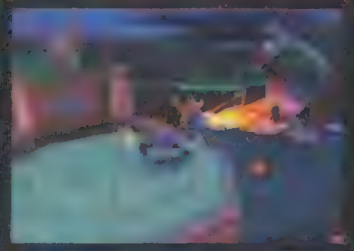
Spyro's back





He toasts his enemies one by one. And this time, he's not taking any prisoners. Spyro is on a rampage in the air, land and sea. This is one fire-breathing dragon ready to take on the world. Spyro 2: Ripto's Rage! It's fast. It's fierce. It's where second-degree burns are just part of the job.

Mess with him and you'll get burned.

EVERYONE
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-VICTOR J. MILLER, SR, USA

"I WAS REALLY (AND I MEAN *REALLY!*) IMPRESSED AND HAPPY WITH THE QUALITY OF THE COURSES."
-THOMAS DEROUAULT, FRANCE

"THANKS AGAIN... FOR PROVIDING A PERSON SUCH AS MYSELF WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN."
-DANIEL BELIC, AUSTRALIA

"I HAVE LEARNED MORE ABOUT PENCILING IN THIS SHORT TIME-THAN IN THE FIFTEEN YEARS I'VE BEEN TRYING TO BREAK INTO THIS INDUSTRY!"
-SANDY CARRUTHERS, CANADA

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COMING IN THE YEAR 2000! 3 NEW COURSES!

IT'S CUTE AND ALL, BUT WHEN YOU'RE ON STAGE WITH LA ENCANTADORA...
--CUTE MEANS NADA AGAINST THIS PACKAGE.
SUPERMAN IS MY BOY TOY, SEÑOR DIABLO, AND I DON'T WANT HIM BROKEN... NOT BY YOU, ANYWAY.
???
By Satan's nails, be this a tease? A joke, el broma, if you please?
Come closer, maiden, that I may see... the Christmas gift you've brought for me.
NO THANKS. I PREFER MY SKIN GLISTENING, NOT PEELING.
SO WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A SNIFF OF MY SPECIAL PERFUME, AND GO FOUL UP DREAMLAND UNTIL SUPERMAN COMES BACK...
The "perfume," as you call it, is mist of Ibella... and with it, you've just made me one jolly fella.
IBELLA? WHO'S IBELLA... I'M...ENCANTADORA --I'M--OH BOY..
NO.. OH, JOY.
THE MOON. JLA HQ.
♫ Jingle Bells, Batman smells, Barda laid an egg-- ♫
I THOUGHT IT WAS "ROBIN" LAID AN EGG."
IT'S CHRISTMAS, MAN... I'M SPREADING THE WEALTH--
WHUMMMP
UH-OH, SANTA'S SLEIGHING WHILE EGG-NOXICATED AGAIN... SOMEONE GRAB HIS REINDEER--
NO WAAAY!

I TOLD YOU A MEDIC-ALERT BRACELET WOULD MAKE A GOOD GIFT! SEE, HE'S FALLEN AND HE CAN'T--
ZIP IT!
SUPERMAN?? IS THE WATCH-TOWER UNDER ATTACK? WHAT HAPPENED?
:HNNGH: I'M FINE... JUST...
YOU KNOW HOW LAST-MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING CAN BE...
IT'S MURDER.
WHERE DOES HE SHOP?
THE SUPER-MARKET, OF COURSE! HAH...HEH... HA.
...
OH, WHAT DO YOU WANT? THERE'S NO AIR OUT HERE.
STRIGAN!!!
SMASH
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGED TO TAKE CONTROL AWAY FROM YOUR ALTER EGO, DEMON--
BUT THE GAMES STOP-- UH... THEY... WHOA.
I'M SORRY.. SO SORRY..

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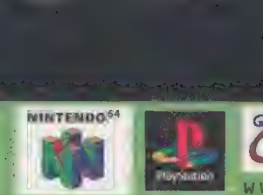
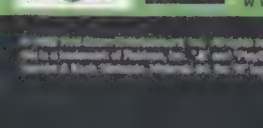
Tom Clancy's RAINBOW SIX





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NINTENDO64 PlayStation GAME BOY COLOR

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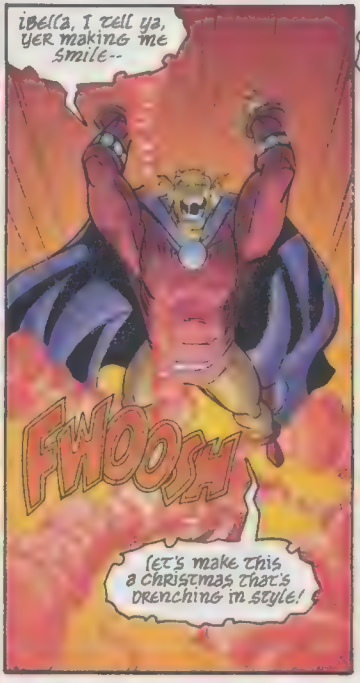
RP

Red Storm

I TRIED TO STOP HIM... BUT... HE WAS TOO STRONG. PLEASE DON'T BE MAD.
ENCANTADORA?!?
HE... HE KNEW... KNEW ABOUT MY POWERS... MY MIST-- HE KNOWS MORE ABOUT THE MIST THAN I DO... AND HE TOOK IT.
TOOK IT? WHAT.. DORA... WHAT DID HE DO TO YOU? YOU'RE LIKE A...
NIÑA FANTASMA... A GHOST GIRL...
IT'S NOT VERY FUN. LIKE PUNISHMENT... I THINK... I DON'T KNOW ...BUT IT WASN'T VERY NICE...
AND I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE.
AND I NEVER SHOULD HAVE LET HER MARRY A GOOD FOR NOTHING MAN LIKE YOU AND WHY DON'T YOU LOSE SO WEIGHT AND GROW SOME HAIR AND YOUR CHILDREN ARE ANIMALS
YES, MILDRED... YOU WILL SERVE YOUR NEW NOSE WITH HONOR!
I WILL?
AIGH! HELP! :KAFF: HELP!
EVERYONE IN THE STORE IS BESET UPON BY--
--LOIS.

HFF HFF
HNNGK
:HFF: OKAY, LANE... GET IT TOGETHER... FIND THE PHONE... YOU'RE STILL YOU..
WHATEVER IT IS OUT THERE DIDN'T AFFECT YOU--SO STAY FOCUSED AND HELP CLARK--
AH-AH-AHHH.. NO TIME FOR THAT, MY SWEET...
YOU OWE LI'L LEX SOME OF THAT JUICY YOU!!!
AN' I'M HERE TO COLLECT, LOIS! COLLECT IT ALL!

amazing! preposterous! sublime! intense! that mist of iBella will be so easy to fence! most loaded of magic, just there for the taking, 'round the neck of some Hoozy, just there for the breaking!
it's taken my mission from no-where to here-- and focused my vision from cloudy to clear!


iBella, I tell ya, yer making me smile--
FWOOSH
let's make this a christmas that's drenching in style!

just a few hours to seal the deal, to alter this plane, and make my dream real.
so hurry, Big Blue, I'll know you'll be back-- return from the moon and start your attack--

STOP--
--THIS--
--NOW!!
man of steel you may be, but steel is prone to alchemy!
SLASH!
YEARGH!
NNGH... SO COLD... HOW.. HOW CAN YOU HURT ME?
magic words and magic deeds are all I need to make you BLEED!
and not to cause a further RIFT, but some might call this "plague" a GIFT!
SUPERMAN OR SUPER SCROOGE? attacking like some loathsome stooge- assault without a Rhyme or Reason is hardly fitting for the season!
YOU'R IN NO POSITION TO CRITICIZE MY HOLIDAY SPIRIT, ETRIGAN! STOP PLAGUING THOSE PEOPLE OR SO HELP ME--!
: MMM : SMOOCH SMOOCH!! WHY, MY DEAR LOIS! I'M YOUR BESTEST FRIEND! CUDDLIEST BED-FELLOW! THE SHADOW ON YOUR SOUL!
WHAT ARE YOU?!?
SO MUCH POWER... POWERS THAT I DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE. I FEEL SO STUPID.. FEEL LIKE...
DIOS MIO... THAT'S IT...

"A GIFT"?! SOMETHING'S GONE ROTTEN BETWEEN YOUR FISH FINS!
THWOKK
HNNGH... NOT INSANE... THOUGH NOW IN PAIN ALLOW ME HALF A BREATH TO EXPLAIN.
I DID BRING A GIFT, TO MAN AND HIS KIND, THROUGH MAGIC AND TERROR, A HEALING BEGINS...
WE ALL LIVE OUR LIVES WITH A DEMON INSIDE. TO KEEP IT IN CHECK, WE LIE AND WE HIDE.
BUT WHAT IF, ONE DAY, ITS HEAD IT DID REAR? FORCED TO CONFRONT IT. WE'D DEAL WITH THE FEAR.
THOSE SINS, GUILTS AND HATREDS, ONCE TOO BIG TO SEE... REVEALED TO BE... SMALL... DESTROYED EASILY.
NO, IT'S NOT CANDY OR A WARM PAIR OF SOCKS, BUT AS FAR AS A GIFT GOES, I THINK IT ROCKS!
WAIT, YOU'RE HELP- ING PE-- WHOOOF!
DON'T THINK ME TOO KIND, THIS GIFT IS TWOFOLD! ONE PART FOR THE SHEEP, AND ONE FOR THE BOLD.
THE MIST PUTS WHAT'S ME ON THE OUTSIDE, YOU SEE... AND ONE OF THOSE INSIDES, DEAR HERO...
...IS ME.
ONE DAY A YEAR MAY ETRIGAN THRIVE, IN CONTROL OF THE BODY, ASTUTE AND ALIVE.
THIS YEAR I'M USING MY DAY FOR HARD WORK... TO FINALLY KILL OFF THAT JASON BLOOD JERK.

IS IT TRUE... WHAT HE'S DONE WITH YOUR MIST, DORA?
IS THIS REALLY HOW YOU SEE YOURSELF?
...
DO YOU WANT TO PSYCHOANALYZE ME, OR DO YOU WANNA SAVE THE WORLD?
RIGHT. CAN HE GO THROUGH WITH THIS TO THE END?
I DON'T KNOW WHO JASON BLOOD IS... BUT IF HE COULD TURN ME FROM A "10" INTO A TEN-YEAR-OLD... I THINK HE CAN DO WHATEVER HE WANTS.
HOW DO I SHUT THAT CAULDRON DOWN?
YOU CAN'T, JEFE... IT'S MAGICO. WHILE THE NECKLACE IS FULL... THE POWER REMAINS--
THEN I'LL HAVE TO EMPTY IT.
EMPTY IT? YOU CAN'T..
afraid of heights? BOOGEYMEN at night?
Looks through ladies' handbags with his super-sight...
What e'er you're insides they'll soon be out--
you sop! you mop! you righteous fool! you've no strength o'er my magical tool!
What's more, you touch that cauldron there, your secret demons too will air!
--and we'll see what... you're... all... about.

my gut both wrench at this surprise, yet I cannot avert my eyes--
In all mine days, I never have seen... a soul quite as wholesome, as bright, or as clean.
I DON'T GET IT... EL GRANJERO?
a farming man, at home with the soil, the salt of the earth, knows endless toil.
and what's his reward for life on the range? he's blessed with great power...
the power to change.
the man's made his errors. no stranger to pain--
--but they do not break him. his soul does not stain.
he catches the tears of his heart when it bleeds... collects them, protects them, and turns them to seeds.

KOHL'S
MERVYN'S
GOODY'S
FAMILY CLOTHING
SEARS

Seeds that he spreads when he straps on that 'S'.. seeds that blossom-- to what? can you guess?
try hope, try faith. try belief in what's right.

try that feeling of safety that turns back the night

so strong is his will, so clear his conviction, he's shut down my magick... and sealed my eviction.

my plans die like shadows held next to the sun--
that's why he's the greatest, the only.
the one.

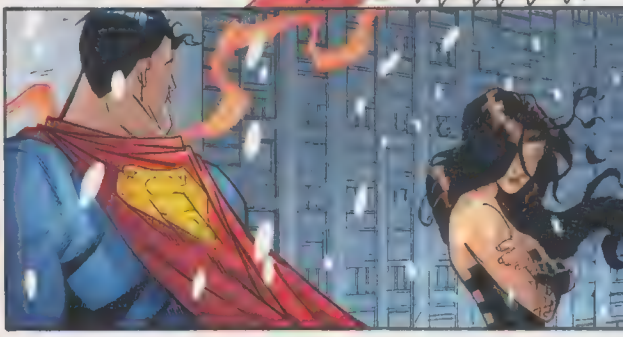
WELL? ANY OTHER STOCKING STUFFERS YOU'RE LOOKING TO SHARE, OR CAN WE CALL IT A NIGHT?
the spell is quite broken. 'tis the end of my ride...
those down below have their pain back inside.

YOU'D BE SURPRISED HOW IMPORTANT THAT IS TO US MORTAL TYPES, ETRIGAN...
INSIDE IS WHERE WE PROCESS OUR DEMONS... WHERE WE CHANGE PAIN TO TRIUMPH!..FEAR TO COURAGE.
WITHOUT THOSE CHALLENGES TO OVERCOME, WE CAN'T GROW.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO ASK YOUR HUMAN HOST ABOUT IT, NEXT TIME YOU GET TOGETHER.
WHICH SHOULD BE ANY SECOND FROM THE LOOKS OF IT.
aye, superfarmboy. my time here is through... 'tis back to the brimstone to fester and stew.

BUT I GO WITH A SMILE, AND A SONG IN MY HEART...
'cause next year, I promise... I'll tear you apart.'

SURE YOU WILL...
GRINCH!



DORA... I KNOW THAT YOU TRIED TO HELP... THANK YOU.
SURE... AND AS A REWARD, I LOSE MY MIST. ESTUPENDO.
NEVER NOTICED HOW COLD IT IS WITHOUT IT...
HERE.
HEH... STILL THE GENTLEMAN... EVERY TIME I CONVINCE MYSELF YOU'RE NOT REALLY AS GOOD AS YOU SEEM...
I... I SHOULD THANK YOU...
UH--THAT'S OKAY, REALLY... I JUST GOT THE FEELING BACK IN MY TONSILS FROM YOUR LAST THANK-YOU.
NO... NO MORE KISSES FOR YOU, MI AMOR... I DID ENOUGH DAMAGE WITH THE FIRST ONE. A GIFT... INFORMATION...
... A CHANGE IS COMING ...BEWARE THE ENEMIES INSIDE.
"ENEMIES INSIDE"? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN--?
...
AND SO ENDS THE BLEEDING HEART PORTION OF OUR PROGRAM.
YOU DIDN'T REALLY THINK I'D LOSE MY FUERZA AFTER A LITTLE HEAVY BREATHING?
HEY! YOUR MIST.
THANKS FOR THE WRAP, QUIERDO. NEXT TIME, I'LL GO FOR THE MATCHING SHORTS-- FELIZ NAVIDAD!
WHY DO I HAVE A FEELING... THAT I'M GOING TO BE SEEING A LOT MORE OF THAT WOMAN?

'Twas the night before Christmas... and all through the city... the lights were all blinking, the tinsel all pretty.
Young wives were a- smiling, their spirits so bright-- 'cause demons that plagued them were now wrapped up tight.
Young husbands, still clueless of secrets inside, bestowed storebought presents and nuzzled their brides.
A witch watched her brother squeal loud with delight... struggling inside with terrible fright.
Has greed made her into a thing she'd despise? a monster? a killer? a princess of lies?
These answers and more will come straight to me watching, not spiteful, but smiling with glee.
Though beaten and bedgered, this demon can say--
-- my Christmas was nothing-- to his Y2K!!!
HAHAHA HAHA HAH!
Happy New Year
Has plans gone awry? Were things out of hand? Would she? Could she? Destroy Superman?

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RE:ACTION

Dear Super-Friends:

ACTION COMICS #758 had a lot going for it. As a guy in charge of 30 or 40 people, I sympathized with Superman's frustrations that "work never lets you rest." And as a frantically married man with the proverbial wife and three kids, it's doubly exasperating when the work that drives you crazy takes you away from the loved ones you're crazy about.

The story also dramatized that there's no honor among crooks. Did I catch (on page 21) a reference to the classic ACTION #650? This issue even had a giant mechanical lobster! Plus, it had the art of Stuart Immonen, who in my opinion is the Curt Swan for my son's generation.

In fact, ACTION and Superman are missing only one thing: a *Super-Dog!* I hereby nominate my own dog Roly (as in the roly-poly puppy he *used* to be) to be Superman's sidekick until these pages are graced by the visitation of our old friend Krypto (from somewhere in Hypertime). Roly may not be able to fly, but he's faster than a lawnmower, more powerful than a dog biscuit and able to leap doghouses in a single bound!

MARK ALFRED
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK

Um…thanks for the offer, Mark, but mebbe, er, you're workin' too hard. And Krypto is back…in the pages of SUPERBOY. He doesn't have any powers, but he's still a force to be reckoned with! And for now better than Joe Kelly's idea of a zombie Krypto from Hypertime.

Dear Editors:

The art in ACTION #758 was great, though two things about the issue bothered me. First, Superman said it would have taken all day to break through a promethium-titanium alloy? Maybe *real* promethium, but an *alloy*? No.

Second, at the end of the story, Lois comes in (being hours late) and says, "You realize I stayed late to teach you a lesson?" I don't know how many of you are married, but I celebrate my thirteenth anniversary today. My wife and I share everything pretty much 50/50, and I know that if I had a day like Superman had and my wife gave *me* that line, there would be major trouble. Maybe this is something only a married guy sees, but it's wrong. I never pretend to be perfect, but this is *not* how a marriage works.

KODI
POSTED ON DCCOMICS.COM

*Saying it **could** take forever to break through the alloy, Kodi, is different from saying it **would**. As for Lois's attitude, she and Clark are newlyweds, and newlyweds have a lot to learn when they start out, as you no doubt realize after 13 years of marriage.*

Dear Re:Action:

All right, I'll admit it: the only reason I bought ACTION #758 was that it had a giant robot lobster on the cover.

J. CALEB MOZZOCCO
ASHTABULA, OHIO

We appreciate your honesty, J., and we hope you equally enjoyed the 22 story pages that accompanied the cover, plus this month's Baldy award, of which you're our recipient!
—Mike McAvennie
Now in the mood for a lobster dinner.

COMING ATTRACTIONS:

NEXT WEEK: Superman's mettle is tested by Metallo and Brainiac 13 in SUPERMAN #154! By Loeb and the new art team of Ed McGuinness and Cam Smith!

IN TWO WEEKS: Immonen, Millar and Marzan introduce a new Metropolis for a new millennium in ADVENTURES #576!

IN THREE WEEKS: Schultz, Mahnke, Nguyen, Superman and the Eradicator may not be able to save the new Metropolis from Brainiac 13 in MAN OF STEEL #98!

IN FOUR WEEKS: Kelly, Garcia and Rubinstein offer the grand finale to the Brainiac 13 storyline in ACTION #763, but is Superman prepared for the price of victory?

dccomics.com
KEYWORD: DC COMICS ON AOL

On our cover: Be of good cheer! The Demon Etrigan is here courtesy of Humberto Ramos & Wayne Faucher with the colors of Liquid!

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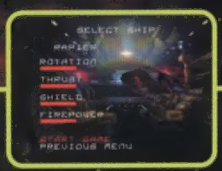

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